

METHOD AND APPARATUS FOR TRANSMISSION OF CONTROL DATA IN A PACKET DATA COMMUNICATION SYSTEM

Abstract of the Disclosure

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A communication system comprising a mobile station and a network implements a persistent packet data control channel that provides for a continuous exchange of control information, such as system information (SI) messages and handoff-related information. The mobile station implements the persistent packet data control channel by mapping the persistent packet data control channel to a packet associated control channel when a packet associated control channel is available and to a virtual associated control channel when a packet associated control channel is not available. The virtual associated control channel allows the mobile station to pass control information to network in the absence of an uplink Temporary Block Flow (TBF).

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